

News from U.S. Rep. John Spratt (D-SC)

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US House of Representatives – Washington, DC

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Monday, January 03, 2005 – For Immediate Release

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Spratt Statement on the Death of Rep. Robert Matsui

WASHINGTON – U.S. Rep. John Spratt (D-SC) released the following statement on the death of Rep. Robert Matsui (D-CA).

"If I were asked to describe an ideal congressman, Bob Matsui would be Exhibit A. He was mellow and civil by nature, but a fighter, capable of passion and prodigious effort. He was a leader in the House not so much because of seniority or position, but because everyone liked him, respected him, and recognized his ability.

"When Bob spoke, he knew his stuff, and he spoke substance and sense. I was last with him on December 15 for a teleconference on Social Security that attracted thirty reporters and went on for an hour, mainly because Bob's answers were so strong, rational, and informed. Democrats have a deep bench, and we will fill his committee position with a competent successor, but no one can replace Bob Matsui's fluency in the subject, on either side of the aisle.

"The Congress and the country have lost a great leader, and the people, a great fighter for the common good. But those of us who served with Bob Matsui and knew him as a dear friend have lost the most, and doubt that we will see his like again."

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